

Duluth Parking Commission
Forty-Ninth Meeting
7:30 a.m. Friday, December 2, 2016
City Council Chambers, Duluth City Hall

Members Present

- Andy Goldfine
- Steve LaFlamme
- Andy McDonald, President
- Chad Smith
- Jessica Sterle

Members Absent

- Howie Hanson, Vice President
- Karin Swor

Guests Present

- Mark Bauer, Parking Operations Specialist – City of Duluth
- Beckett Berning, resident – City of Duluth
- John Clark, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking Company
- Christina Cotruvo, resident – City of Duluth
- Tom Cotruvo, resident – City of Duluth
- Spencer Fredrickson, student – Duluth East High School
- Nathan Johnson, resident – City of Duluth
- Matthew Kennedy, former Parking Manager – City of Duluth
- Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police – Duluth Police Department

Approval of 11/4/16 minutes

Commissioner Steve LaFlamme motioned to approve the 11/4/16 parking commission meeting minutes without change. Commissioner Andy Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Discussion on traffic safety concerns near Duluth East High School

Duluth East High School student Spencer Fredrickson expressed safety concerns related to traffic on East Superior Street, near Duluth East High School. He stated that students and teachers from the school were having trouble crossing Superior Street safely, particularly on their way to the parking lot rented from a nearby church on the north side of the street. Mr. Fredrickson cited an instance in which a teacher had encountered a safety issue with a passing vehicle while crossing the street as a pedestrian. City of Duluth Parking Operations Specialist Mark Bauer stated that he would relay the traffic safety concerns to the appropriate city divisions. He added that the parking division was currently conducting a review of the Duluth East High School residential permit parking zone.

Proposal to convert a portion of 42nd Avenue East to a residential permit parking zone and/or to add an alternate side parking configuration

Mr. Bauer described a proposal to convert a portion of 42nd Avenue East, south of London Road, to a residential permit parking zone and possibly to add an alternate side parking configuration to the area. He stated that the proposal had been brought to the parking division by community residents and said that while the parking division did not recommend implementation of a residential zone in the area, they were not opposed to adding an alternate side parking configuration to enhance safety, due to the fact that the street measured about 21 feet wide, generally considered to be too narrow to accommodate both-sided parking. Beckett Berning, a resident of the area, stated that the request was made to address issues such as loitering in cars, littering and urinating in lawns, and drug use by East High School students who park in the area. Mr. Bauer stated that the primary purpose of residential permit parking zones is to protect the availability of on-street parking for residents who would otherwise encounter a lack of such space, rather than to control unwanted or illegal activity. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the section of 42nd Avenue East between London Road and South Street be converted to alternate side parking with a two-hour time limit during school hours. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to implement a loading zone on West Superior Street

Mr. Bauer described a proposal to implement a loading zone on the 2100 block of West Superior Street. He stated that the owner of Glass Guru had requested that the parking division study the area adjacent to his business, which featured an unregulated parking zone long enough to accommodate two parked vehicles. Mr. Bauer stated that the surrounding area featured single-space meters but that he had been unable to determine why the zone near Glass Guru featured neither meters nor a posted configuration. He stated that the business owner had indicated a need for a loading zone to serve his business needs and that the other nearby stakeholders appeared to have adequate parking to accommodate their needs. Commissioner Sterle motioned to approved the proposal to implement the loading zone. Commissioner LaFlamme seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to reconfigure parking on a portion of West Michigan Street

Mr. Bauer described a proposal to reconfigure parking on the 200 block of West Michigan Street. He stated that several months previous, the parking commission had approved a reconfiguration plan for the area based on the currently needs and limitations of the block but that the overall usable street width had subsequently increased following a utility project. He stated that parking on the west end of the north side of the street could be restored due to the extra width gained and that the Duluth Transit Authority, the Duluth Police Department, and the area businesses were in support of a proposal to add an on-street zone for three police vehicles and two 80-minute single-space meters on that side. Mr. Bauer also stated that the police department was willing to abandon two police parking stalls on the east end of the south side of the street so they could be converted back to single-space meters. Commissioner Goldfine motioned that the proposal be approved as presented. Commissioner LaFlamme seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to convert two single-space meters to ADA parking stalls on Priley Drive

Mr. Bauer described a proposal to convert two single-space meters adjacent to the St. Louis County Courthouse on Priley Drive to ADA stalls. He stated that the request had come from a member of the public and that the building's property manager supported the conversion of the stalls. He stated that the parking area adjacent to the nearby federal building featured two ADA stalls but that additional accessible parking adjacent to the courthouse would further enhance public access to that specific building. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the eastern of the two proposed ADA stalls be approved with a four-hour time limit and that the parking division study whether to propose an additional ADA stall adjacent to the City Hall section of Priley Drive in the future. Commissioner Sterle seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

On-Street ADA signage requests

Mr. Bauer presented on-street ADA signage requests from residents at 3066 Restormel Street, 4626 West 7th Street, 1536 Fern Avenue, and 425 North 27th Avenue West. He stated that the parking division had performed site visits at each of the properties and supported the installation of signage at each of them. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the request for 3066 Restormel Street be approved. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the request for 4626 West 7th Street be approved. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner Sterle motioned that the request for 1536 Fern Avenue be approved. Commissioner LaFlamme seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the request for 425 North 27th Avenue West be approved. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Continuation of first-hour-free restructure in downtown parking ramps discussion

Mr. Bauer provided an update on the process of introducing first-hour-free rate structures in downtown parking ramps. He stated that City of Duluth administration was supportive of the concept and that the parking services division recommended a holiday-season 2017 timeframe for implementation of such rate structures in the municipal parking ramps. He stated that he had discussed the concept further with the Downtown Parking Advisory Committee and that members of the group would also be presenting the concept to some of the private parking operators. Mr. Bauer stated that he would keep the parking commission informed as the process moved forward in 2017.

Follow-up on ADA parking stall time limit discussion

Mr. Bauer provided a follow-up on the previous meeting's discussion regarding the possibility of placing time limits on on-street ADA parking spaces. He stated that he had gathered information that indicated it was, indeed, possible to add time limits on ADA-designated stalls. Commission President Andy McDonald suggested that the parking division review existing on-street ADA spaces for possible recommendation of time limits and consider such limits in future proposals for new signage.

Continuation of 24-hour parking time limit discussion

Mr. Bauer stated that no further public input had been received concerning changes to the 24-hour time limit on on-street parking on Duluth city streets and recommended that the time limit remain at 24 hours.

Off-street parking update

Interstate Parking Duluth Operations Manager John Clark provided an update on off-street parking operations. He stated that a new bicycle parking rack had been installed at 410 West First Street Public Ramp and added that other parking facilities would be evaluated for future such installations. He stated that bicycle parking was also available at Technology Village Ramp. Mr. Clark stated that plans had been finalized for installation of a solar panel array and electric vehicle charging stations at Lake Place Lot.

Proposal to establish 2017 parking commission meeting dates and times

Mr. Bauer presented the dates and times of all planned 2017 parking commission meetings, which would generally occur on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The commissioners indicated that the proposed dates and times were acceptable.

Comments by Deputy Chief of Police

Deputy Chief of Police Laura Marquardt stated that she is covering the administrative duties previously performed by the city's parking manager and that she is available for input or discussion at any time.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Bauer, CPP
Parking Operations Specialist

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-38

December 2, 2016


To convert a portion of 42nd Avenue East to alternate side parking with a two-hour time limit.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to convert 42nd Avenue East from London Road to its southern terminus at Quebec Street to calendar-based alternate side parking with a two-hour time limit.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to enhance street width and safety, while addressing neighborhood concerns. The previous configuration featured both-sided parking with a 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. parking prohibition. This prohibition will remain.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-39

December 2, 2016

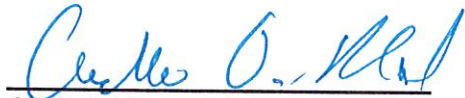
To implement a loading zone on West Superior Street.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to convert two unregulated parking stalls at 2117 West Superior Street to two loading zone stalls.

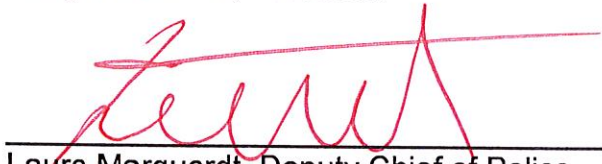
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to accommodate the loading needs of the adjacent business, Glass Guru. The stalls are currently unregulated by signage or meters.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-40

December 2, 2016

To reconfigure parking on a portion of West Michigan Street.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to reconfigure parking on the 200 West block of Michigan Street to add three police-only stalls and four single-space meters.

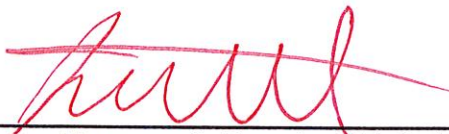
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to adjust the parking configuration on the 200 West block of Michigan Street to accommodate current needs. The recent setback of the curb on the south side of the block has allowed the reinstallation of parking on the north side.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-41

December 2, 2016

To convert a single-space meter on Priley Drive to an ADA parking stall.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to convert one single-space meter on Priley Drive, adjacent to the St. Louis County Courthouse, to an ADA parking stall.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to meet the accessibility needs of visitors to the St. Louis County Courthouse and nearby buildings. The meter that will be converted is #CV 26.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-42

December 2, 2016

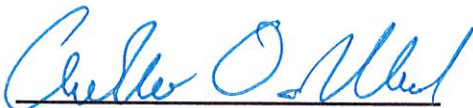
To install on-street ADA signage at 3066 Restormel Street.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to install on-street ADA parking signage to serve the resident(s) at 3066 Restormel Street.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to meet the accessibility needs of the resident(s) at the above-referenced address, as well as those of any parker with current ADA parking credentials.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-43

December 2, 2016

To install on-street ADA signage at 4626 West 7th Street.

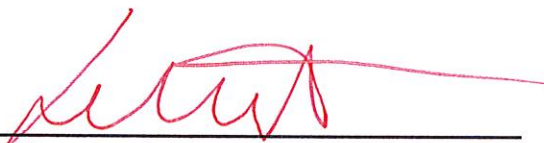
IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to install on-street ADA parking signage to serve the resident(s) at 4626 West 7th Street.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to meet the accessibility needs of the resident(s) at the above-referenced address, as well as those of any parker with current ADA parking credentials.

Approved 5-0.


Andy McDonald, President


Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-44

December 2, 2016

To install on-street ADA signage at 1536 Fern Avenue.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to install on-street ADA parking signage to serve the resident(s) at 1536 Fern Avenue.


STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to meet the accessibility needs of the resident(s) at the above-referenced address, as well as those of any parker with current ADA parking credentials.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police

DULUTH PARKING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2016-45

December 2, 2016

To install on-street ADA signage at 425 North 27th Avenue West.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Duluth Parking Commission to install on-street ADA parking signage to serve the resident(s) at 425 North 27th Avenue West.


STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

This action serves to meet the accessibility needs of the resident(s) at the above-referenced address, as well as those of any parker with current ADA parking credentials.

Approved 5-0.



Andy McDonald, President



Laura Marquardt, Deputy Chief of Police